318. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* With reference to question No. 216, dated 31st January 1941, will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether effecting maintenance repairs to the aqueduct wherever necessary was the only matter referred to in the resolutions passed at the meeting of the ryots of Aloor village; and if not,

(*b*) why did not the Chief Engineer visit the place;

(*c*) whether the Chief Engineer has received a letter dated 28th November 1940, from the President of the meeting; and if so,

(*d*) whether he has not stated therein that the figures furnished by Government support his statement that the ryots were losing hope of getting the full benefits of the aqueduct;

(*e*) whether full benefits of constructing the aqueduct can be enjoyed by the ryots if the distribution *chals* are not properly maintained?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) Copies of the resolutions are placed on the Council table.

(*b*) This irrigation work is a very petty one, the *ayacut* being only of the order 11 or 12 acres. The matter was, however, fully investigated by the Assistant Engineer, Eastern Division, and a copy of his report was forwarded to the President, Mr. K. T. Mathew. According to this report, there was no urgency at the time. Further, no repairs to the structure were possible during the middle of the cultivating season.

(*c*) & (*d*) Yes.

(*e*) It is the duty of the ryots themselves to attend to the petty irrigation channels.

319. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 216, dated 31st January 1941.—

(*a*) whether the Chief Engineer has considered necessary to visit the place (though not urgently) to redress the grievances of the ryots, according to his convenience; and if so,

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